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Monday night -

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My dear Fanny

I have asked Mr. Brown
to look for your age. Alas it is not there
but if you will let me know where you
were christened, if it be in London, my
brother will get your register a day or so
after I receive your letter. He has been
getting one for my aunt and knows the
way. - I have no pity whatever for your
nerves because I have no nerves, but I
think your dislike to the word criticism
quite proper, it is a very ugly foolish
word - and heaven forbid we should ever
use it. - You may rate your powers that

way as low as you please but as I con-
sider mine only worth three halfpence
I dare say you won't think them lower
than that - Don't suppose I ever open
my lips about books before men at all
clever and stupid men I treat too ill to
talk to at all - * Women generally talk of very
different things - Don't you or do you
admire Don Juan? Perhaps you like the
serious parts best but I having been
credibly informed that Lord B. is not
really a great poet, have taken a sort of
dislike to him when serious and only
adore him for his wit and humour.
I am by no means a great poetry reader

and like few things not come out of
Shakespeare. Comedy of all sorts pleases
me. I think Peppes nearly as good as
Don Juan. When you read it you will
notice that gratifying account of us
English young ladies - I believe I did
tell you that Donna Inez was intended
for Lady Byron to whom he wrote
that fine sentimental. "I am the well
The character is beautiful and I have
no doubt very like for I have heard
Lady B. is a thesaurizing. One thing is
certain to me, which is, that it is impossi-
ble to write about books, for before

you can get out your sensations about
one letter the letter is fine but it
is always better to talk about them
Lenny was here the other day looking fine
enough and more like a rich man than
a Spaniard - I hope that name is
not in common call him brother
who call on nobody have actually
four calls and two visits to make as
as the teacher will suffer in his
years which is a visitation, in the
opinion at any rate I believe I always
stay I know and I should like to stay
six days I suppose that is a bit of a
compliment staying in at the end of a
letter for I never can make compliments
which is no merit but a great drawback

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